

Message Text

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ACTION IO-14

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FM AMEMBASSY JAKARTA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 3350
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USMISSION USUN NEW YORK
AMEMBASSY BANGKOK
AMEMBASSY COLOMBO
AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD
AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI
AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE

C O N F I D E N T I A L JAKARTA 11310

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PORG, UNGA, ID
SUBJECT: WELLS/PETREE MISSION--CONSULTATION WITH INDONESIA ON
POLITICAL ITEMS

1. AFRICA: WELLS AND PETREE DISCUSSED UNGA POLITICAL
ISSUES AUGUST 22 WITH FOREIGN DEPARTMENT INTERNATIONAL
ORGANIZATIONS DIRECTOR IMROD IDRIS AND NORTH AMERICAN
AFFAIRS DIRECTOR MOHAMMED SABIR (ACTING DIRECTOR GENERAL
FOR POLITICAL AFFAIRS).

2. PETREE OUTLINED NEW USG APPROACHES TO PROBLEM OF
SOUTHERN AFRICA, INCLUDING APARTHEID, NAMIBIA AND ZIMBABWE,
NOTING HOPEFUL PROGRESS IN DIALOGUE WITH AFRICANS ON THESE
ISSUES. IDRIS INQUIRED SPECIFICALLY ABOUT SOVIET ATTITUDES
TOWARDS CURRENT INITIATIVES ON SOUTHERN AFRICA; INDONESIANS
CONCURRED IN OUR GENERAL PICTURE OF SOVIET UNHELPFULNESS,
BUT ALSO LACK OF DIRECT IN-PUT - E.G. SOVIET ISOLATION AT
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MAPUTO.

3. SABIR SAID HE APPRECIATED THE CLEAR STATEMENT OF US
POSITION. HE EXPRESSED STRONG GOI SUPPORT FOR WESTERN
EFFORTS TO ACHIEVE PEACEFUL SOLUTIONS IN SOUTHERN AFRICAN BUT
HE ALSO WENT ON TO MAKE CLEAR INDONESIAN RESERVATIONS ABOUT
US COMMITMENT TO ACTION IN LIGHT OF AMERICAN INVESTMENT IN

SOUTHERN AFRICA. IDRIS STATED THAT AS A MEMBER OF COMMITTEES ON COLONIALISM, NAMIBIA, AND APARTHEID, AND A LEADING MEMBER OF THE NON-ALIGNED, INDONESIA HAD TO SUPPORT THE POSITION OF THE BLACK AFRICAN NATIONS. IN THIS CONTEXT, GOI IS PLEASED TO BE ABLE TO SUPPORT US EFFORTS TO IMPROVE THE SITUATION IN SOUTHERN AFRICA. THE AFRICAN BLOC COULD BE IMPORTANT TO INDONESIA ON THE TIMOR ISSUE, HE SAID, SO THE MODERATION OF APPROACH TO THESE PROBLEMS OF AFRICANS AND WESTERNS WAS A POSITIVE FACTOR FOR THE GOI.

4. ONE OF IDRIS' OFFICERS IN INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS DIRECTORATE, DJAMARIS, ASKED IF OUR SUPPORT FOR THE CONCEPT OF MAJORITY RULE APPLIED TO SOUTH AFRICA AS WELL AS NAMIBIA AND ZIMBABWE. PETREE STATED THAT IT DID, BUT US INSISTS THAT PEACEFUL MEANS BE USED TO ACHIEVE THIS, NOT ARMED STRUGGLE. IDRIS ASKED FOR US VIEW OF RECENT LIBREVILLE OAU MINISTERIAL MEETING, AND AGREED WITH US IMPRESSION THAT IT WAS A MODERATE SESSION AND DID NOT ALTER MODERATE AFRICAN SUPPORT FOR WESTERN INITIATIVES AND INTEREST IN THE NEW DIALOGUE WE SEEK.

5. MIDDLE EAST: SABIR SUGGESTED THAT ISRAELI PRIME MINISTER BEGIN WAS TRYING TO HOLD OUT UNTIL THE 1978 US CONGRESSIONAL ELECTION TO WIN SUPPORT FOR HIS OPPOSITION TO PRESIDENT CARTER'S POLICIES, AND WONDERED IF USG WOULD NOT

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BE FORCED TO PUT PRESSURE ON ISRAEL TO TAKE A MORE MODERATE POSITION. PETREE DISCUSSED IN GENERAL TERMS US EFFORTS TO ENCOURAGE RESUMPTION OF A VALID NEGOTIATING PROCESS AMONG THE PARTIES. IDRIS AGAIN RAISED THE ATTITUDE AND ROLE OF THE SOVIET UNION, FOCUSSED PRIMARILY ON SOVIET RELATIONS WITH SYRIA. HE SUGGESTED THAT IT WOULD BE THROUGH SYRIA THAT THE SOVIETS WOULD SEEK TO OBSTRUCT A PEACEFUL SOLUTION IN THE MIDDLE EAST. PETREE SAID THE SOVIETS APPEAR TO BE CONCERNED ABOUT THEIR LACK OF TRACTION IN THE MIDDLE EAST, BUT THEY PROBABLY DO NOT SEE IT IN THEIR INTEREST TO OBSTRUCT A SETTLEMENT THERE. IDRIS OBSERVED THAT PRESIDENT SADAT OF EGYPT RISKS LOSING HIS POSITION AS A MODERATE LEADER IF MIDDLE EAST PEACE TALKS FAIL, AND URGED THE US NOT TO UNDERESTIMATE THE ROLE OF SYRIA IN MIDDLE EAST AFFAIRS. DJAMARIS ASKED THE USG ATTITUDE TOWARD THE UN AD HOC COMMITTEE ON PALESTINE. PETREE OUTLINED OUR FUNDAMENTAL OPPOSITION TO THE MANDATE AND THE WORK OF THE COMMITTEE AS UNHELPFUL TO SUCCESSFUL NEGOTIATIONS.

6. SABIR COMMENTED THAT THE GOI EXPECTS THE SUBJECT OF EAST TIMOR TO COME UP IN THE UNGA AGAIN, AND HOPED THE USG WOULD CONTINUE TO SUPPORT INDONESIA'S POSITION. PETREE

RESPONDED THAT US POSITION REMAINED UNCHANGED, ADDING THAT THERE MAY BE LESS DEBATE ON TIMOR IN THE GA THIS YEAR. CHARGE RIVES OBSERVED THAT PRESIDENT SUHARTO'S RENEWAL OF AMNESTY FOR FRETELIN RALLIERS IN EAST TIMOR SHOULD ALSO HELP DEFUSE THIS ISSUE.

7. SABIR CLOSED THE THREE-HOUR DISCUSSION, STATING THAT IT HAD BEEN A VERY USEFUL EXCHANGE OF VIEWS, AND HE HOPED THAT SUCH CONSULTATIONS WOULD CONTINUE IN THE FUTURE BETWEEN GOI AND USG OFFICIALS, MOST ESPECIALLY DURING THE COURSE OF THE GA SESSION IN NEW YORK.

8. COMMENT: INDONESIAN SIDE OBVIOUSLY APPRECIATED BEING BRIEFED ON US VIEWS AND POSITIONS. THEIR OWN LIMITED COMMENT
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REFLECTS THE GOI'S LACK OF PREPARED POSITIONS ON MOST UNGA ISSUES AT THIS POINT. GOI PARTICIPANTS IN DISCUSSION WILL BE PREPARING RECOMMENDATIONS ON THESE POSITIONS, BUT DECISION-MAKING AUTHORITY RESTS WITH FOREIGN MINISTER ADAM MALIK AND CABINET. WE THINK OUR IN-PUT WAS TIMELY AND WILL BE GIVEN SERIOUS CONSIDERATION BY THE MINISTRY.
RIVES

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